EXHIBIT 9
DATE 2/21/07
HB 769

Im 18 years old,

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sean Damiean Beardsley and I am currently attending 20 Peaks Ranch Residential Program for my second full year, and have attended Galena Ridge Summer Program for two full summers. I came to 20 Peaks on April 20, 2005 from a military school in Kansas. ~~I am a Senior a the High School~~ 4 the second Im in this prog. on my own free will, & my gov. class is list. to this hearing!

From the moment I arrived at 20 Peaks I could tell that this was not like the places I had heard about. At first I didn't like my new surroundings, "~~their~~ I felt was nothing wrong with me I could deal with my life on my own", I did not realize that I needed help. ~~I have had a pretty hard past life, I~~ my past history is NOT something I proud of was deep into multiple addictions, had a poor relationship with my family, was flunking out of school, and hated myself although I would never admit it. I was in denial about my true feelings and emotions, and thought that it was my fault. My father saw the destructive path that I was on and (after I was expelled for a second time from the military school for drug use) sought out a new place for me to get my life back on track. Now I thank my Dad for the decision that has changed my life in a was that I have never thought possible. I have gone through a lot of changes hear, and plan to keep this new found life of mine.

Having had a wonderful change in my life all thanks to this program, I have been introduced to some proposed changes, looking to the future I see this can become a serious problem. As u know HB 769 calls for a licencing proses, and the ability to revoke that licence. This allows the board to suspend or even terminate the licence if the well being of the participants isn't to standards. Although I do think that the punishment should be more that a misdemeanor I believe that is important to have such a proses. I

believe that after its' made known that proper licencing is required, and a program fails to meet that standard, there is an ulterior motive for investigation not getting the proper licences. HB 769 has a (5) member board, (3 professionals and 2 public representatives) that keeps the right people in charge of the board. It is important to have a majority of the board members in that profession. That way the board has a better understanding of programs and how they work, so laws can be made with the participants best interest. The two (2) public representative give a valuable outside view to the board. The need to have an experienced board to give proper licences is apparent. I also support the need for background checks stated in sec. 4 for people who have direct access to participants. Parents should know who is working with their children. Its is important to know who is working for the business, and what their past is, to better protect the participants. so their not criminal offenders

I realize that this could open the door for more and more reforms on how to run a program. But I also know that a huge part of why this program has helped me so much is because of its creative thinking. Not every one isthe same, the ability to adjust from year to year is a vital part of this programs success. If all programs are run the same way, they only reach a small percentage of participants. I believe it's important that the programs in Montana are run ~~differently~~ uniquely, in a safe way. As I said before not every one is the same. I have experience how these programs can change your life, and whale I don't claim to be an expert, I can see the good in this bill. I fully support HB 769, because it has it has the best interests of me and countless other like me in mind. Designed by people that know the business. Thank you for your time. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee